

Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NRC-05 OES-07 CIAE-00
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DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA/IR:CCFLOWERREE
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA/IR:CCFLOWERREE
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 110424

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, US, GW, UN

SUBJECT: FRG COMMENTS ON CUT-OFF

1. FRG EMBOFF VON PFETTIN CALLED ON ACDA OFFICER
FLOWERREE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS TO CONVEY SOME OBSERVATIONS
FROM BONN ON CURRENT US STUDY OF POSSIBILITY OF A CUT-OFF
PROPOSAL IN CONNECTION WITH UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DIS-
ARMAMENT. VON PFETTIN HAD REPORTED FACT OF US STUDY TO
BONN IN WAKE OF PRESS REPORTS EARLIER THIS MONTH AND
SUBSEQUENT OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF THESE REPORTS.

2. VON PFETTIN HANDED OVER NON-PAPER, TEXT OF WHICH
FOLLOWS: QUOTE
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"THE CURRENT US-STUDY ON CUTOFF OF PRODUCTION OF FISSILE
MATERIAL LEADS US TO MAKE THREE GENERAL COMMENTS:
-WE ASSUME THAT AN EVENTUAL CUTOFF PROPOSAL - IF
ENVISAGED - WOULD NOT IN ANY WAY TOUCH UPON OR JEOPARDISE
REPROCESSING FOR CIVILIAN USE OF NUCLEAR ENERGY (THIS WAS
EXPRESSLY CONTAINED IN THE 1969 US-PROPOSAL IN THE THEN

18 POWER COMMITTEE FOR DISARMAMENT).

-A PROPOSAL OUGHT TO BEAR IN MIND SECURITY INTERESTS OF NATO,

-THIRDLY WE FEEL THAT A CUTOFF WOULD ONLY REGARD NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AS A NON-WEAPONS-STATE WHICH CARRIES OUT REPROCESSING FOR CIVIL PURPOSES ONLY IS ALREADY BOUND BY THE BAN IN ARTICLE II OF THE NPT AND SHOULD THEREFORE NOT FALL UNDER ANY CUTOFF PROPOSAL." UNQUOTE

3. IN AMPLIFICATION, VON PFETTIN SAID THAT WHILE FRG WOULD NOT TAKE A POSITION OPPOSING A US PROPOSAL ON CUTOFF, HIS AUTHORITIES HAD SOME BASIC CONCERNS WHICH CENTERED ON: 1. THE DIFFICULTY IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN WEAPONS GRADE PLUTONIUM AND THAT USED FOR BREEDER REACTORS AND 2. A FEAR THAT A CUT-OFF COULD BE USED AS A TOOL AGAINST REPROCESSING OF NUCLEAR MATERIALS FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

4. FLOWERREE THANKED VON PFETTIN FOR MAKING THESE FRG VIEWS AVAILABLE. HE SAID THAT THE US STUDY HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED AND THAT THE GERMAN GOVERNMENT'S CONCERNS WOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, ADDING THAT IT SHOULD BE UNDERSTOOD THAT CUT-OFF WOULD APPLY ONLY TO PRODUCTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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FISSIONABLE MATERIALS FOR WEAPONS USE. IN REGARD TO ALLIANCE SECURITY INTERESTS, FLOWERREE SAID THESE WOULD NATURALLY BE A FOREMOST CONSIDERATION IN A USG DECISION ON THIS ISSUE. WE WOULD ALSO WISH TO CONSULT WITH ALLIES BEFORE PUTTING FORWARD ANY PROPOSAL, IF A DECISION WERE MADE TO PROCEED IN THAT DIRECTION. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

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